BARBARA A. MIKULSKI MARYLAND

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR. AND PENSIONS

United States Senate

The Honorable Ray LaHood Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

629 THAMES STREET, SUITE 400 BALTIMORE, MD 21231 (410) 962-4510 VOICE/TDD: (410) 962-4512 60 WEST STREET SHITE 202 ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-2448 (410) 263-1805 WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003 BALTIMORE: (410) 269-1650 6404 IVY LANE, SUITE 406 GREENBELT, MD 20770-1407 August 29, 2010 (301) 345-5517 94 WEST WASHINGTON STREET HAGERSTOWN, MD 27140-4804 (301) 797-2826 1201 PEMBERTON DRIVE SALISBURY, MD 21801-2403 4101 546-7711

IN RÉPLY PLEASE REFER TO

OFFICE INDICATED:

Your agency recently received a grant application from the City of Baltimore for funding consideration under the TIGER II Discretionary Grant Program for the City's Westport Waterfront Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) project. The Westport Waterfront TOD will provide a multi-modal network of highway, road, light rail, bike and pedestrian improvements to support the development of 13,000 jobs and 2,000 housing units, and the redevelopment of vacant industrial property. I am writing to draw your attention to the merits of this application and to urge you to give it every favorable consideration.

The nation's economic recession has significantly impacted Baltimore City, where the unemployment rate has recently climbed to 11%. If awarded these funds, the Westport Waterfront TOD will have a catalytic effect on the region's economy, connecting disadvantaged Marylanders to jobs, amenities and opportunities while at the same time creating a model for development that restores the Chesapeake Bay's fragile ecosystem.

The Westport Waterfront Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) project not only meets the TIGER II program goals but embodies USDOT's vision for creating sustainable and livable communities that will make America economically competitive now and for the future.

I very much appreciate your attention and consideration of this matter. Please keep me posted as these grant awards are made.

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Sincerely,

Barbara A. Mikulski **United States Senator**

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